

**Linden County Water District
Regular Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes
July 20, 2023**

Directors Present: President Lawrence Knapp, Vice President Steven M. Lagorio, Director Myron Blanton, and Director Douglas E. Smith

Board Secretary Barbara Kascht, General Manager John Villierme and District Engineer Matt Ospital were also in attendance

Directors Absent: Director Elaine Reed

Public Comment: None

Agenda Items:

1. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Capital Improvement Program.** The Front and Ione Street Waterline Replacement Project Engineer's Estimate Base Bid and Additive Alternate #1 breakdown was presented. General Manager John Villierme explained the project had been split in half due to cost increases from the initial estimate. In the base bid, the water main on Ione would be replaced up to Front Street and then east to Harrison. District Engineer Matt Ospital advised that both phases of the project will be bid together but the Board can choose to do only the base, which would leave the District with about \$700,000 in water reserve funds. It was noted that the fiscal year 2023-24 rate increase went into effect with July usage, which will be billed in August. The Board directed District Engineer Ospital to proceed. Ospital assured there is a contingency built in for change orders.
- b. Sustainable Groundwater Management.** Director Myron Blanton reported that there have been no meetings of the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Board. Director Doug Smith advised the Sierra Club has filed a lawsuit against the ESJGWA mostly because they said they didn't provide enough access to the public. The Grand Jury initially said the ESJGWA met all of their objectives but did not adequately engage the public. Directors Blanton and Smith, along with Barbara Kascht, were involved in a Zoom meeting regarding the Grand Jury's recommendations for Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) communication and engagement of District constituents.

2. NEW BUSINESS

- a. 2023-24 Budget.** General Manager John Villierme asked that approval of the budget be tabled until the next meeting. He is still finalizing budget figures.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

Steven Lagorio moved to approve the consent calendar as follows:

- a. Minutes – June 15, 2023
- b. Warrant Listing
- c. Financial Reports
- d. Operations Reports
- e. Compliance Log
- f. Correspondence
- g. Water Usage Reports

seconded by Myron Blanton. **AYES:** 4 **NOES:** 0 **ABSTAIN:** 0 **ABSENT:** 1
Motion carried.

4. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.